

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

September 16, 2009

Volume 36, Number 6

MEET THE GREEKS



PULL OUT SECTION ON GREEK LIFE

Everything you need to know
about Greek life on campus.

pages 13-16



THE SCENE

Fans, bands, and tattoos. Fall
of Troy drummer chats it up
with the Post.

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The Drug-Free Schools and Workplace Guide for Oakland University Employees and Students

Clip and Save Oakland University (OU) is committed to providing an environment that is free of the abuse of alcohol and the illegal use of alcohol, drugs and controlled substances. OU is required by law to adopt and implement a program ("Program") to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The Program includes: the annual distribution of a statement to each student and employee which addresses certain risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol; standards of conduct prohibiting the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on campus property or as part of any of its activities; the legal consequences for violations of local, state or federal laws related to illicit drugs and alcohol; a description of health-risks and other risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol, a description of applicable counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs; and a biennial review of the program. Pursuant to the law OU is issuing the statement set forth below.

Standards of Conduct at OU: The unlawful possession, use, or distribution, manufacture and dispensation of controlled substances, and illicit drugs and the unlawful use, or possession of alcohol by students or employees in the workplace, on OU property or as part of a University activity is specifically prohibited by OU Ordinances and/or by state or federal law. The OU Ordinances governing the use of alcohol and drugs are available in the Student Handbook (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=68&sid=75>) and University Administrative Policies and Procedures, Section # 600, Health and Safety.

University Sanctions: OU will impose sanctions for violations of this statement consistent with local, state and federal law and with applicable collective bargaining agreements, employee handbooks, student handbooks, and University ordinances. Violations by faculty, staff or students will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, expulsion and referral for prosecution. The discipline imposed will depend upon the seriousness of the offense. In addition to, or in lieu of, discipline, violators may be required to complete an appropriate rehabilitation program. Additional information is available in the Student Handbook (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=68&sid=75>), Academic Human Resources (<http://www2.oakland.edu/provost/web/acadhr/index.cfm>) and University Human Resources (<http://www2.oakland.edu/erdl/>).

Legal Sanctions: There are legal sanctions under OU Ordinances, and under state and federal law, for the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. Any violation of an OU Ordinance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or both. Violations under state and federal law may result in punishment for a misdemeanor or felony, depending on the nature of the crime, including fines, imprisonment, and loss of certain licenses and forfeiture of real and/or personal property. Descriptions of the state and federal sanctions for illegal possession and distribution and, in some cases, use of a controlled substance are included in this guide. Sanctions may change from time to time.

Health Risks: The psychological and social consequences of controlled substance use, illicit drug use and alcohol abuse can be devastating. This can lead to various health and other risks including feelings of depression or anxiety; diminished or impaired work or academic performance; absenteeism; poor decision making; poor morale; low self esteem; financial problems; conflicts with co-workers, classmates, families, friends and others. Loss of job, friends, divorce and the creation of a dysfunctional family system are common consequences of substance abuse. Additional risks include; sexual assault or other unplanned sexual relationships; unwanted pregnancies; irreversible drug-induced psychotic state and/or delusions of omnipotence which trigger

life-threatening behavior. Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

Additional information is available at Graham Counseling Center (<http://www2.oakland.edu/GHC/>).

Employees working on federal grants and contracts:

As a condition of employment all employees working on federal grants and contracts must abide by this statement. Such employees must notify their supervisor or department head of any criminal drug statute conviction occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after the conviction. The supervisor or department head must then promptly report the violation to the Director of Grants and Contracts.

Drug & Alcohol Counseling, Treatment and Rehabilitation Contacts

NOTE: This is a partial list of substance abuse facilities. More programs and centers may be listed in local and other area telephone directories.

On-Campus

Counseling Center
(248) 370-3465
Graham Health Center
Oakland University
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
(248) 853-3000
900 Woodward Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48341

National Hotline Numbers & Assistance Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous
(800) 252-6465

Food & Drug Administration
(301) 443-1240
(Consumer Complaints)

M.A.D.D.
(800) 438-6233

National Cocaine Hot Line
(800) 378-4435

S.A.D.D.
(508) 481-3588

Tough Love
(800) 333-1069

Local Facilities

AA of Oakland County
(248) 332-6116
168 University Drive
Pontiac, MI 48342

M.A.D.D. Oakland County
(248) 682-2220
3525 Elizabeth Lake Rd., Suite B
Waterford, MI 48328

Narcotics Anonymous
(248) 543-7200
220 W. Nine Mile Rd
Ferndale, MI 48220

Oakland Family Services
(248) 858-7766
114 Orchard Lake Rd.
Pontiac, MI 48341

If treatment for substance abuse is needed, please contact your insurance carrier to obtain proper instructions for seeking treatment. Students covered by University health insurance should contact the Graham Health Center staff for benefit coverage.

If you have questions about any of the issues addressed in the guide, please contact one of the following departments:

Faculty:	Office of Academic Affairs	(248) 370-2190
Students:	Office of Dean of Students	(248) 370-3352
Staff:	Office of University Human Resources	(248) 370-3480

Resources

The complete Drug-Free Schools and Workplace Guide is available on-line @ <http://www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents> 09/09/09

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Cover design
by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

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THE OAKLAND POST

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Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

September 16, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

Post traumatic strike syndrome

We're a week into classes, and thankfully the college equivalent of the "Who is your daddy and what does he do," discussion is out of the way.

Some classes still had the typical introductory ice breaker, while others felt more like grievance counseling.

In an e-mail, the faculty union advised our educators to open classes with a question and answer forum to clear up any confusion about the events of the last week: the bargaining, cancellation of classes, picketing and the temporary agreements settled on.

"Make an introductory comment to welcome the students back," is the first suggestion. For instance, "Welcome back. I'm happy to be in the classroom with you."

It prepared faculty for students who were in support of the job action as well as students who were in opposition, and suggested responses.

"Plan to listen to students' comments, without feeling like you need to respond to everything."

Most dealt with students who didn't agree with the job action. Assuming the student could figure out that despite varied terminology — depending on whose materials they were reading — it all meant the same thing.

Flyers passed out by picketers said

"job action," and one showing the percentage of salary increases was titled "news." The university said the professors were engaging in "illegal actions" in an e-mail to students.

While The Post and most other news organizations that reported on the topic did their best to publish unbiased facts, we will be the first ones to admit that not everybody seeks out independent, credible sources of information. Especially when related information is handed through a car window or sent directly to student web-mail.

The reason there was a need for such a discussion on the first day of class was the representation of propaganda as news in the communications to students from both sides of the negotiation table.

It's not that OU students are lacking the ability to comprehend the magnitude and consequences of what happened. It's that when two sides of an argument present competing information with loaded words, it's a given that there is going to be confusion, emotion and some sort of formed opinion in the process.

In an e-mail from OU's marketing team, which usually transmits press releases, the university told only its own side of the story of how the two bargaining teams ended up in Oakland County

Circuit Court.

"The union bargaining team ignored Judge [Edward] Sosnick's order and walked out of a bargaining session that university officials hoped would bring an end to the faculty's illegal strike."

The presumed press release did not mention the reasoning for the union's frustration. Which according to the union, was that OU wasn't willing to compromise.

Unfortunately, we will never really know for sure what happened, because the two sides don't seem to have an alibi that checks out with each other.

As a news organization, we were pleasantly surprised at how informed the student body was on the subject that first day of class. Surprised because the administration isn't typically an interesting topic of conversation over Caribou and garlic knots. While what they do is important, it's not always relatable.

So OU, the next time the administration does something that actually interests students, don't speak in tongue just to suit your agenda. Your agenda is students.

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What do you think?
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or stop in the office, 61 Oakland
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Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.

BLUNDERGRADS

by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)



CORRECTIONS CORNER

• In the article "Legal issue ongoing in Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism split" on the July 15 issue, the article incorrectly stated "AAUP said Sudol did so in violation of OU constitution." It should instead say "the constitution of the college of arts and sciences."

• In last week's "At the round table" the article incorrectly states Ron Sudol was at OU since 2001. The year is actually 1977.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call (248) 370-2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Putting together the pieces after a suicide



Dan Simons
Mouthing Off Editor

The last time I saw my friend Chris alive, he was wearing a giant green sombrero, had two Hawaiian leis around his neck, was still sweating from the hot wings we tricked him into eating, and was trying to get me to do another shot of tequila. It was my birthday, earlier this summer, and we were all eating lunch together.

At around 5 p.m., I left the restaurant. An hour and a half later, Chris put a gun to his head and ended his life.

We were all supposed to go out to the bar and celebrate that night, but instead I stood outside Chris's apartment, in the rain, and tried to comfort his family.

Chris was one of my best friends, a co-worker, a drinking buddy, and absolutely the last person I would have ever expected to commit suicide. When his girlfriend called me to tell me what happened, I yelled at her for five minutes because I thought it was a sick birthday joke. It was only when I heard a police officer in the background asking her if she was all right when it really hit me.

Chris just found a new job that paid under the table so he could still collect unemployment. He had three nephews he would have done anything for, and at that same lunch where I last saw him, Chris and his girl-

friend were talking about what kind of wedding they were going to have. He lived more life before a Tuesday morning than most people did in an entire week. He had everything going for him.

Yet, days later, there I was, cleaning out his storage unit, making sure the people closest to him were OK, and struggling to tell everyone he knew what had happened, because no one believed Chris was capable of doing something like this.

Chris was passionate, spontaneous, and determined. But passion can be misdirected, a split decision can end in tragedy, and stubbornness will stop a person from seeking help.

In the days that followed, the worst part was when people asked me how I felt. I couldn't answer them because I felt nothing. It's one thing to lose someone you know, but to have them take their own life changes everything.

Everyone who knew him, at some point, felt some sort of blame and guilt. And when everyone gets together and tries to put the pieces together, all they get to see is that the puzzle is bigger than they thought. Why didn't we see it coming? How could we have stopped it? Was there something I did that fueled whatever it was that made him pull the trigger?

The worst was wondering "If Chris seemed so normal and could do this, then who's next?"

I still try to see who is driving when I spot a white Grand Prix, and I think about him whenever I hear country music or every time I drink Jack Daniels. Every

time I did anything after he died, I couldn't stop thinking "This is the first time I've done this since Chris ..."

I never want to have to stand up and speak at another friend's funeral again. I hate the look in someone's eyes when you tell them someone they just talked to the other day took their own life. I want to stop thinking "Why?" and "What if?" and "How could he?"

The questions I still have could fill out the rest of this newspaper, and then some. But that would solve nothing. Wasting time and wasting space were two things Chris hated.

If you, or anyone you know, is having thoughts of suicide or is contemplating taking their own life, there is always help. Times may be tough but they will never be tough enough to take such drastic measures. Seek a solution to the problem instead of making all the problems go away. Suicide is senseless, pointless, and a completely avoidable tragedy.

The victims of suicide are not the people who choose to end their life, but all the people they leave behind distraught, confused, depressed and unable to answer why. I don't want anyone to have to go through what I did, let alone do I want anyone to reach that point where they think there is no other option.

There is no reason for Chris to have done what he did, and there is no reason anyone else has to either.

Please contact the Common Ground 24/7 hotline at (800) 231-1127. You can also visit their website: <http://www.commongroundhelps.org/>

GO OAKLAND!



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- Meijer in Auburn Hills and Rochester Hills
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- Finish Line at Twelve Oaks Mall and Lakeside Mall
- Textbook Outlet in Auburn Hills

Also check out ougrizzlies.com for more than 400 items available online.

Be sure to stock up on OU merchandise this fall. It's a great way to show your Golden Grizzlies spirit!

Texting while driving: Can we really stop?



Chris Hagan
Guest Columnist

It's being described as more dangerous than driving while drunk. The simplicity and convenience of texting has created a much larger problem than just an in-school distraction. Disastrous and lethal accidents have been caused by adults shooting off an "LOL" text from behind the wheel.

Despite all the accidents, despite the thousands of cars totaled, and

the countless lives lost, texting while driving is something I cannot and probably will not stop doing.

Furthermore, I disagree with the driving drunk comparison. I have no scientific data to back this up, but I guess I just have my adolescent stubborn mindset which keeps telling me that there is no way taking shot after shot of Burnett's and getting behind the wheel is safer than texting while driving.

If I'm in the car and receive a text, it's second nature to reply. I've memorized the key pad to learn how many times you have to press the number to get the desired letter. (Press the nine key four times to get Z, that sort of thing). I know T9 is faster but you have to look down a lot more to make sure you send the right word. And I'm not condoning texting while driving by any means — I'm fully aware of the danger and how much the risk

increases for an accident. I'm just voicing that despite evidence, I remain guilty of texting while driving.

The first time I replied to a text behind the wheel, I was with my dad. He saw me hit the reply key and scolded me for a half hour. (Ironically, four years later I got a text from my dad while he was driving.) That just shows how prevalent the text phenomenon has become. And despite his guilt he continues to fight the good fight against TWD, an acronym I can see police officers adopting and placing on a ticket.

Just the other day my dad confronted me saying he has a video he wanted me to watch. He said it was about three French girls who got into a gnarly accident as a result of TWD.

I stopped him right there and told him, "I know what you're going to say and it's going to fall on deaf ears." Needless to say, I didn't watch the video. I understand what message he's trying to get across but it wouldn't have worked. I don't know if I've just become desensitized to blood and gore from watching Quentin Tarantino movies or by being a firefighter. I've seen my fair share of wicked car accidents, some due to texting, and yet I still do it.

And I believe that's true for millions. They know the risks, they know it's dangerous but yet it continues. It's getting to a point now that if an accident is the result of TWD, the police can look up your phone records to see if you sent a text at the time of the accident. And that can be enough to incriminate you. So when will this vehicular rampage (maybe that's getting a little too extreme) be stopped?

As a college student less than a month away from turning 21 years old, I hope it's never, because I would be screwed. The cops would know me by name if they started citing TWD tickets. But when you examine it, how can it be stopped? With the cell phone tucked in a lap the police can't see it. I believe we're on an increasing trend of trauma and we're nowhere near the peak.

So with regard to our generation of texters, I feel that we won't change until two things happen. One is that we each experience our own traumatic incident where texting is the catalyst to someone's demise or disfigurement. I say someone, because a car is just a car. You break one, you get another one. Another one to text in. But if you take a life because you had to specify in your text message that you wanted Corona Light and not Corona Extra for a party later that night, the psychological impact, I think, would be habit changing.

The second event to provoke change will be when our generation becomes parents and our kids become the drivers. It'll be that fear for our children's safety on the road that forces us to change our method and police our kids.

Observe while you're driving — not the people talking on the cell phones (that's old news) — but the people texting. I guarantee that you'll see more and more people of all ages texting. Nothing written in a college newspaper will impact you enough to get you to change your ways. I can't exactly implore you to stop TWD, because I can't practice what I preach on the issue. But at the very least, avoid staring at the phone for longer than a few seconds. It'll make a difference.

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New faculty contract changes revealed

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

The faculty strike is over, and a 2009-12 contract agreement was reached between Oakland University administration and the union that represents about 600 OU faculty members. But the agreement, which union leaders say was a "compromise," is only tentative, and may not be official for at least two weeks.

Joel Russell, chemistry professor and president of OU's chapter of AAUP, said there will be meetings to inform faculty of the changes on Monday, Sept. 21 and Thursday, Sept. 24, both at noon in the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center.

At least seven days after these meetings, a vote, most likely online, will be held, and a majority of members have to approve it. Then the board of trustees have to approve it to make it official.

To reflect the four days of missed classes, OU is not adding on more days to fall semester, but changed some deadlines on the academic calendar, (available at www.oakland.edu/academ).

A brief summary of the major changes is on www.oaklandaaup.org. Russell, in an interview with The Oakland Post, clarified these changes. OU, as of press time, declined to confirm or deny details released by

AAUP because it's an ongoing matter.

Shared faculty governance: AAUP said this was the most important issue, and that the faculty was holding out on this not only for them, but for students.

AAUP said it was wary of OU administration trying to take more control of academic governance, and said reducing faculty input would hurt the students.

In the tentative agreement, AAUP said there are "no changes to the protection of governance processes," which Russell said meant a victory for AAUP.

Salary raise: AAUP said the tentative agreement would give faculty no raise this year, a one percent raise in 2010 and a three percent raise in 2011. Russell said AAUP compromised on finance to gain on other issues.

"It's a bad thing OU chose not to give raises when they have the funds for it," he said. "In the future it makes us much less competitive in hiring."

He said there is a 50-day period when the 2011 raise is open to renegotiating by both sides, but if a new agreement isn't reached, the old language will hold, so from the faculty's viewpoint, the three is minimum.

He said OU can dock the pay of two days for all faculty, even those who missed no classes during the strike.

New faculty hires: Russell said OU wanted a 20 percent increase in new adjunct (non-tenure track) faculty hires, which would have decreased OU's quality,

but settled on a five percent increase. He said "our standards for hiring faculty will be maintained."

Health care: AAUP said OU wanted to give all faculty three health care providers, but under a "healthy living" plan that would make faculty members considered "less healthy" pay more insurance, AAUP considers it discriminatory. The tentative agreement says faculty can now choose if they want a regular HMO plan, or the "healthy living."

Intellectual property: AAUP said OU wanted more rights-ownership of faculty's intellectual property like research and even lecture materials, which are typically owned by faculty. AAUP said the tentative agreement doesn't demand this, and the rights would remain.

Research/travel pay: Russell said OU initially wanted to give no increase to OU's current \$516,000 per year research and travel money pool, but the new agreement increases this amount by \$10,000 per year, which "probably won't cover increases in faculty or inflation."

Medical school faculty: AAUP wanted information from OU, a public school, about how to incorporate the faculty of the upcoming OU William Beaumont School of Medicine, a private school, but in the tentative agreement, AAUP will not represent the med school faculty.

Visit oaklandpostonline.com to read an expanded version of this article.

Students react to the strike

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

The teacher strike has been resolved, students are returning to class, and the university is returning to normal following the end of contract negotiations between the American Association of University Professors and Oakland University administration.

But the strike has had an affect on the way 67 percent of OU students view their university.

Of those students polled, 47 percent said they felt that their views of the administration had changed.

"I began to see how the administration actually works and that they too clash with each other on views of ways to improve lives," Kristen Steffes said.

Of the students polled, 15 percent said that their views of the faculty had changed, although most who said their

view of the faculty changed said their view of the administration also changed.

"I think the administration is being stingy, and I have more respect for the faculty," Kierstan Hansen said.

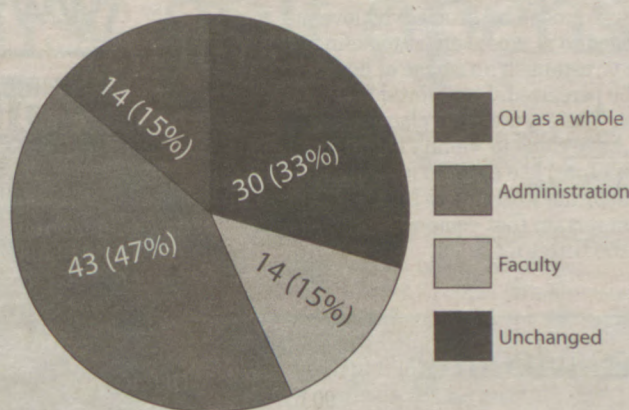
Students were mostly supportive of the faculty while a few students spoke about the faculty.

"I have grown to have strong opinions against the labor unions," said Matt Briggs. "The demands they made to the administration were absurd."

Another student spoke out against the administration's "completely negative press statement."

"The e-mails I received from members of the administration were worded like an attack on the faculty rather than trying to inform the students of what was really going on," Steve Rakoczy said.

Have the events of last week (the strike, canceled classes, negotiations between faculty and administration) changed your view of OU?



Breanna Smith said that since the semester has not been extended, the administration should offer a partial refund to students.

But a significant 33 percent of those polled said they had no opinion or felt no differently about OU following the strike.

Still, other students were surprised or confused as to why the first week of class was canceled.

"I don't understand how a school that cared about its students learning could close for a week," said Holly Jurzysa.

Unions bargain

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

Oakland University may have settled their contract disputes with the American Association of University Professors, but they still have two contracts to work out.

Campus Maintenance and Trade and the Professional Support Association have been working on day-to-day extensions of contracts since July of 2008. According to the heads of both unions, which in total represent over 300 university employees, negotiations have been frustratingly protracted.

"We basically have the same issues at the table that we had four months ago," said Chris Turkopp, president of OUCMT. "We've certainly made some progress in these negotiations, but they have come very slowly."

For Sandy Gabert, president of OUPSA, the outlook was somewhat more optimistic but claimed details are delaying the settlement.

"We're still discussing a lot of the same things, but the good news is we have reached some conceptual agreements

See CMT, PSA on page 10

By Sarah Lazarescu
citizen journalist

Letters from Vienna

Entry 1: Abendteuer (n); Adventure

In a nutshell, I am a sophomore at Oakland University who has decided to bank on the crazy notion of studying in Vienna, Austria for 87 days while living with my young aunt and her two Chihuahuas.

Reporting on a biweekly basis, I will dare to present the nonsugarcoated truth I have spent years building in an attempt to create a temporary one in a matter of three months.

In the center of Vienna, I sit facing a fountain simply letting my words flow like the illuminated water cascading down intricately detailed statues. Behind me are people watching an opera projected outside the Vienna Opera House.

This is what I had been expecting. Surrounded by the beauty of ancient architecture and the classical music that has proven to withstand the test of time itself, I find myself in the Vienna I had envisioned.

Expectations are rarely factual. Even though I refused to admit it, I had grandiose expectations of what it means to live in Vienna. I did not realize exactly what it is to leave all that is familiar in hopes of becoming immersed in a culture that is alien.

I loosely declared that studying abroad would be an adventure, ignoring the fact that the word itself implies danger, and perhaps even sacrifice.

I had always considered myself a cultured individual. Ironically, it was not until I first walked into a Viennese subway when I realized the true meaning of diversity. Irish, African and Asian factions spoke their national language and dressed according to their culture. I could not help but stare about me in fascination; I felt as if I had arrived in the center of the world.

A first impression of the Austrian people is comparable to those who populate the city of New York. It seems that everyone goes about their own business, inhabiting a world entirely their own. In fact, to look someone in the eye while passing him or her on the street is to develop a connection you did not have permission to develop, a rather small invasion of privacy.

A different facade of Vienna is the hopelessly romantic one. The castles and cobblestone streets give the sense of being in a fairy-tale. In fact, there is a couple that has been kissing on the nearby sidewalk for the past half hour. Get a room.

The luxury found in the wealthy city of Wien is overwhelming. Everything I have eaten so far tastes as if it is gourmet when, for example, it may have only been an inexpensive sandwich purchased from a local grocery store.

In all honesty, I feel as if I had seen enough of Vienna and would very much like to return home for the night, sleep in my bed, dance around the living room with my little sister and eat home-cooked meals. I miss my family and friends so much I could cry.

It is home that is one's castle and where an individual is a prince or princess.

Surrounded by people who love me, I needed to make no effort to define who I am or establish an image of how I wished to be perceived. I was loved for who I was. There truly is no place like home.

I have come to Vienna in search of adventure; I've come to learn more about myself, the world I live in and humanity. I am certain that come what may; I will be the better for it.

Board of Trustees Meeting

When: Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 2 p.m.

Where: Auditorium in Elliot Hall

What: Important university decisions are made at these meetings, and most things that the administration does have to be approved by the board of trustees. Students, staff, faculty and public can address the board members with any issues they have, but must sign up before the meeting by submitting a written request to the board of trustees office

Contact: 203 Wilson Hall, (248)-370-3112, zambardi@oakland.edu

Official student representatives: Tawnee Milko (tsmilko@oakland.edu), Corey Schmidt (cjschmid@oakland.edu)

Website: www3.oakland.edu/oakland/bot or go to www.oakland.edu and search "bot" in the search box. This site has schedules and agendas of upcoming board meetings as well as archives of agendas and minutes of past meetings.

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GSC names new director

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

Students active in Oakland University's Gender and Sexuality Center were wondering if they were ever going to find a comparable replacement for beloved director Joann Bautti-Roche.

They think they may have found one in Melissa Pope, who began her service as GSC director Monday, Aug. 31.

Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, said Pope stood out among the pool of four candidates, because of her enthusiasm and knowledge of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered issues.

"Her resume is just impeccable," Miller said. "She just had a really good rapport with the students. She is very outgoing and connects with them very well ... A lot of people were wondering, 'How can we ever find another Joann?' I think we've found one."

Pope comes to the GSC with a lofty resume from the Triangle Foundation, a Detroit-based service organization for the LGBT community, where she served as victim services director.

Pope said she has always been interested in LGBT issues but decided she wanted to get more involved during a student organization fair at Thomas Cooley Law School in Lansing.

According to Pope, she had expressed interest in joining an LGBT organization but said she was told by others at Cooley



Jason Willis/The Oakland Post
GSC director Melissa Pope assumed her position on Aug. 31.

that, as a straight person, other members in the group might not feel comfortable with her around.

"It did not bother me that I, as a straight person, was not welcome in that space. What bothered me was that they were so afraid to be who they were, to be out in the law school," Pope said. "It made me realize that there were a lot of things that needed to be done to make this a safer place for everyone to be who they were."

Chris Darin, president of the student organization Gay Straight Alliance, said Pope was an easy choice to succeed Bautti-Roche.

"She definitely stuck with us right off

the bat. It was a unanimous decision," Darin said. "She is ridiculously overqualified for the position ... in a good way. She is involved in a lot of things, and that tells us that she is not only capable of doing the work but doing well beyond the work."

Pope said that her sexual orientation does not hinder her ability to counsel people of minority orientations. She claims that being straight allows her to offer a valuable point of view, which was evident during her time at Triangle.

"People who are straight were willing to say things in front of me that they weren't willing to say in front of someone who was L, G, B or T," Pope said. "I think it gave me a little more perspective and sometimes the ability to find a personal part of them to bring them to an understanding of personal equality."

Pope said she hadn't yet had time to develop specific plans to improve the GSC. However, both Miller and Darin said they had ideas of how the GSC could better serve the student body.

Miller said she would like to see the center tackle more women's issues, while Darin would like to see a more prominent peer mentoring program.

"I would to see GSC's peer mentoring program be considered a part of the first-year student experience, like the [Center for Multicultural Initiatives] is," Darin said. "The campus has its targeted programs for freshmen, and I'd like to see us right up there with them."



Meadow Brook Theatre appoints new interim artistic director

By JENNIFER WOOD
Staff Reporter

Meadow Brook Theatre introduced a new artistic director for the upcoming 2009-2010 season.

Oakland University alumus, Travis Walter, has worked for Meadow Brook Theatre since graduating in 2002.

Over the past six years, Walter has both acted and directed at Meadow Brook. After being hired in 2003 as an intern for group sales, he worked his way up through the ranks.

"He has worked very hard to prove himself," said Cheryl Marshall, Meadow Brook Theatre's managing director.

For the past year and a half Walter served as the artistic administrator succeeding David L. Regal, who left the position in 2007.

"It's really a title promotion, recognizing the work I have been doing for the past year and a half," Walter said. "It means the world to me."

During the previous season, Walter directed two Meadow Brook shows including "Beyond the Rainbow," awarded Best Musical at the 8th annual Wilde Awards, which honors the finest productions and performers in Southeast and Mid-Michigan.

"We're thrilled to give him the title to go along with all he has been doing," Marshall said.

The promotion comes at an exciting time for both Walter and the Meadow Brook staff. The 2009-10 season features shows that are all Michigan premieres. Walter will direct three of the six, starting with the season opener, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

"It's a special adaptation for Meadow Brook Theatre, so we're really excited about it," Walter said.

The Jefferson Garrett adaptation of Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" will run from Oct. 7 through Nov. 1.

"It's been very busy, very crazy. I can't wait to jump into the season," Walter said.

For more information on this season at Meadow Brook Theatre visit their website at www.mbtheatre.com.

Grizzly Oaks disc golf opens

By BRAD SLAZINSKI
Staff Reporter

On Sept. 10, Oakland University's disc golf course officially opened up. Located on the upper athletic fields across the University Student Apartments, students came out and enjoyed the practice hole provided before the course opened up.

The course's official name is Grizzly Oaks; it is an 18-hole course and is licensed by the Professional Disc Golf Association. Student legislator Jarret Schlaff designed the course. Scorecards for the course can be found on the table in front of the Student Congress office, which is located in the basement of the Oakland Center.

The course takes advantage of the woods surrounding OU and has narrow fairways. The PDGA website describes Grizzly Oaks as unique and challenging mentioning the fairways and the surrounding scenery.

Before the course opened, an event took place with free flying discs commemorating the opening being given out and people taking practice throws.

A few students could be seen playing the course; some students think that with Grizzly Oaks opening up that it will increase interest in disc golf among university students.

"I didn't know that the sport existed until I found about the course," said senior DJ Ponder.

There is no fee to play the course, which is open to everyone.

Freshman Tommy Marquardet hopes that more students will develop interest.

"I think a lot more people will get into it on campus, especially because the course is free," said junior Justin Klein.

Freshman Brad Nash likes the course, saying that it isn't too long but it is still difficult. What makes it hard according to Nash is that the holes are narrow. Nash's favorite is hole 14 because all of it is situated in the woods.

"I'm ecstatic. After all the work I put in and the help from everybody I'm glad everything finally came to together," said Schlaff.

Schlaff also said that many students have already been using the course.

"There's so many people already using it and it's a great way to give back to the students," said Schlaff.

One student had said that he was glad OU was getting a course as other parks were starting to get boring.

Schlaff also discussed how the course can be altered and what he'd like to do to the course in the future.

"Hopefully we can add more holes and there are areas that we can make it larger," he said.

"The cool thing is that because this is a green course everything is movable. Nothing is permanent. We can move a course or move a hole. Most other courses have concrete but we have wooden tees that we can move from one hole to another," said Schlaff.

POLICE FILES

On Sept. 10, OUPD was dispatched to the University Student Apartments for an attempted home invasion. The student reported hearing a loud bang on the door and checked the doorframe to find that it was cracked and called OUPD. She did not see who did it or knew of suspects. OUPD checked the security camera and didn't see a suspect in the video.

On Sept. 11, a student reported that her bicycle was missing. OUPD said the student said she left it near the parking lot entrance in USA, and when she came back 10 minutes later with a lock, it was gone. She said the gold lettering on the bike could have been mistaken for an OU Bike Share bicycle. OUPD and the student checked the bike racks around the resident halls and didn't find the bike.

OUPD is working with Auburn Hills Police Department to conduct a program a program called SAFE Streets program on Wednesday, Sept. 16. SAFE stands for stop accidents from escalating, and will be targeting OU's main entrance for violations of speed, following too close and failure to yield. OUPD and AHPD cars will be monitoring University Drive between Pontiac Road and the main entrance as well as Squirrel Road between Cross Creek Parkway and Walton Boulevard. The program will take place on Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and Oct. 21.

Continued from page 7

CMT, PSA

on some issues," Gabert said. "It's just been a while since we've been back at the table, so it's hard to know what this will look like on paper."

Unlike members of AAUP, Turkopp and Gabert each said language in their contracts prevents them from legally calling a strike or any similar work stoppage.

"We don't have the clout the professors had," Gabert said.

Turkopp said that if the unions were to strike, OU would have the authority to lock them out of negotiations and prevent them from returning to work.

Turkopp and Gabert said they supported the professors "100 percent" during their highly publicized labor dispute. Turkopp said he made a point out of visiting the various stations on campus where professors were picketing to describe OUCMT's status.

"The professors brought a lot of these issues to the public," Turkopp said. "Large salary increases for a few high-ranking people in the administration. The faculty, to a person, was very supportive of us when I described our situation to them, and they said they would do whatever they needed to do to see

that we were treated fairly. I told them, 'You couldn't help us out any more than you are right now.'"

Neither OU nor the unions went into great detail discussing the specifics of the negotiations, but Turkopp and Gabert did list some issues at play. The most pressing issues include: wages, medical benefits and career enhancement opportunities.

Turkopp said a drop in benefits could make OU a less attractive employer.

"It used be accepted that when you came to work at Oakland University, you could have a lower salary than you could in the private sector, but the benefits were phenomenal," Turkopp said. "Now... who knows what's going to happen?"

While OU's negotiating team declined to speak on the record, they did clarify a claim earlier made by AAUP and restated by the unions that the university had outstanding credit, and could easily afford to increase the workers' salaries and benefits.

John Beaghan, assistant vice president of finance, said that a number of people confused the Allied Irish Bank rating for the \$52 million in bonds issued to the university in 2008 with OU's overall credit rating, which is listed by Moody's as A2, five tiers below the highest credit level, AAA. AAUP President Joel Russell has acknowledged this mistake.

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He brings a knowledge and enthusiasm for the science of cooking and a humorous approach to his shows. *Bon Appétit* magazine named him Cooking Teacher of the Year in 2004, and he was named Best Food Guru by *Atlanta* magazine in 2005. *Good Eats* was awarded the Best T.V. Food Journalism Award by the James Beard Foundation in 2000, and the show was also awarded a Peabody Award in 2006.

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

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Tickets are free for Oakland University students, faculty and staff; \$5 for guests of current OU students, faculty, and staff, OUAA members, and college and high school students; and \$10 for the general public. Tickets are available at the Center for Student Activities Service Window, 49 Oakland Center.

For more information about this program, or to request special assistance with attending the lecture, please call the Center for Student Activities at (248) 370-2400. Additional information can also be found at oakland.edu/csa.

This program is sponsored through the generosity of the following organizations: Chartwells, the Oakland Press, the Oakland University Alumni Association and Oakland University's Student Program Board.



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Rescuing discarded texts

Elementary education majors put old books to good use

By ANNIE STODOLA
Local/You Editor

Three Oakland University seniors aren't going to let any more books go to waste.

Jon Besedich, an elementary education major, was placed at a special education camp this summer in the West Bloomfield district. While working there, he received word that the school was closing.

They planned to sell the books for paper weight, however after the paper weight company turned them down, Besedich offered to take the books off their hands.

"We went and spent about three hours loading up about 5,000 books," Besedich said. "We didn't exactly know what we were going to do with the books, but we figured having the books would be a good thing at least."

Besedich, along with fellow elementary education program students Kyle Bonkowski and Lori Alderman, suddenly found themselves with a vast assortment of books to sort through. The trio of student teachers began to look through the books and come up with some sort of plan.

The students each took some of the books to start their own classroom libraries, however even after that Besedich estimates they still had about 4,500 books.

"As student teachers, we know it costs a fortune to start a classroom library," Bonkowski said. "We thought if we could sell them the books to other teachers for cheap it would be benefiting them as well."

The students created a Facebook event announcing a used book sale to student teachers with books going for \$5 a bag.

"From that sale we made about \$300 and sold about 3,000 books, so at this point we've got \$300, 1,500 books left, and three tired college kids," Besedich said.

They put some of the money back toward gas costs from transporting the books, and then decided to donate the

rest of the money and books.

"Why would these books go to waste when schools in districts like Pontiac, Detroit, and Canton are in such dire need of books?" Bonkowski said.

Bonkowski and Besedich have sent the remaining books to districts including Pontiac so they can see if any are of use to the schools. They plan to have any outdated or otherwise undesirable books sold for paper weight, in which case all the money will go back to the schools as well.

With the money they have made so far from the book sale, the students purchased school supplies to go with the books.

"Walmart had back-to-school sales with notebooks for five cents and packs of two glue sticks for 15 cents," Besedich said.

Overall, he said they got about 400 glue sticks, 400 crayons, 75 packs with 10 markers each, plus over 300 notebooks and folders. They were also able to get Staples to let them go over the usual limit on penny folders in order to get even more.

Bonkowski said the first batch of supplies was dropped off at Alcott Elementary in Pontiac and the next is going to Fitzgerald Elementary in Detroit this week.

"We're working with OU to hand-pick schools that truly need this help," Besedich said.

As part of the field placement and student teaching program at OU, the students said they are placed in two suburban districts and two urban districts. Bonkowski feels this has helped them see where the needs are.

"We get to see what districts have money, and what are in such dire need for books," he said. "Something like this has never been thought of in this area before. Everyone gets to help everyone out in this situation."

In the future, Bonkowski said he would like to see the program expand to buying other goods for the school districts.

"We want to look into getting water and crackers and things like that for

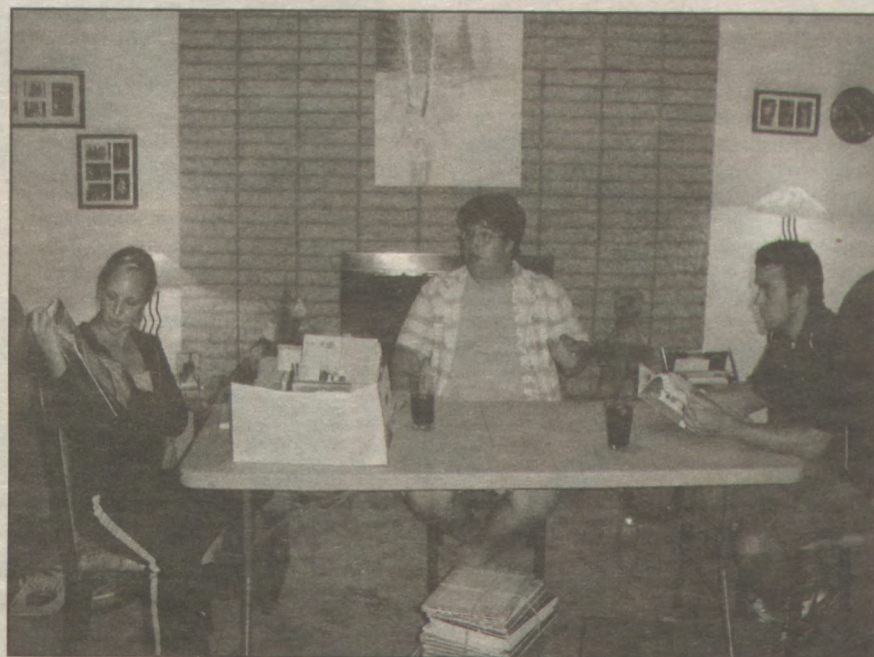


Photo Courtesy of Kyle Bonkowski
OU seniors Lori Alderman, Jon Besedich, and Kyle Bonkowski sort through some of the books they received from a West Bloomfield school as part of their book rescue project.

these schools too, because so many of these kids come to school without even having breakfast," Bonkowski said.

Though all three of the students currently involved with the program are busy with their student teaching placements for the fall, they are working to continue the program with what little time they do have available.

"There has to be more that we can do on a regular basis," Besedich said. "When this program is done for now with this round of books and money, we plan to start up all over again."

The students encouraged anyone with a desire to help or with a knowledge of a particular district in need to contact them via e-mail.

They are also in search of opportunities when books may otherwise get discarded, including school closings and teacher retirements.

"Everything we've done is through word of mouth," Bonkowski said. "We've

even had teachers come forward saying they're retiring and offering to let us come pick up their classroom libraries so we can redistribute them."

Besedich wants people to help, no matter the size of their commitment.

"There are lots of bigwig places that try to help schools out, but we want to keep this more low key and local," he said.

"Big, little or small — it doesn't matter. We just want to help out the schools, this is all about the schools."

Anyone interested in donating or helping with the project can e-mail Bonkowski at krbonkow@oakland.edu or Besedich at jabesdi@oakland.edu.

As education majors, both feel this is an important program for students to get involved with.

"There's nothing better to do for your future," Besedich said. "What better to do than to advocate for your own educational program?"

Transfer students get acquainted

By JENNIFER WOOD
Staff Reporter

The first day of college is one that most students only have to endure once. Last year, however, over 1,500 students transferred to Oakland University, embarking on a second "first day."

Once the application is completed and the acceptance letter is received, the real adjusting begins.

Attending another orientation, tackling another registration system and exploring a new campus are all things a transfer student must do for the second, if not the third or fourth time.

The first step in the process of becoming a full-fledged Grizzly is transfer orientation.

Transfer student orientation runs much like a condensed version of the traditional freshman orientation. Students arrive early in the morning and spend four hours covering the "must-knows" of OU, like advising, financial aid, utilizing SAIL and webmail, and transferring credits.

Catherine Simons, who transferred from Macomb Community College, found

that the OU orientation provided exactly the type of information necessary for students who had already participated in some other freshman orientation program.

"At Oakland, the group was considerably larger and the information was basically the same, but because we were transfer students they could skip over things meant for freshmen," Simons said.

Elizabeth Lordon, who previously attended Kalamazoo College, called her transfer to Oakland a "no-brainer" due to the university's close proximity to her home.

Lordon recalled her freshman orientation as a weeklong program that not only introduced students to academic facets of the college but also strongly focused on "getting to know peers and being out and about on campus."

"At Kalamazoo, I had a time during orientation where they asked me to sit one-on-one with my advisor and talk about specific class options, whereas at Oakland orientation there are too many students to do anything like that. Both sides have their own pros and cons," Lordon said.

Orientation is a normal expectation for transfer students. A professor strike is not.

Word came Sept. 3 that due to unresolved contract negotiations, classes were canceled until further notice. Classes resumed on Sept. 10. Transfer students were surprised by the week-long delay.

"I am just glad it was decided to cancel classes instead of having to choose whether or not to cross the picket lines," said Simons, who stated that the strike did not sway her decision about attending OU. "Things like this happen," she said.

Lordon agreed, saying that although the strike was frustrating — because like most students, she had prepared for class the previous night — she believed that the professors were doing what they felt was necessary.

After an additional week of anticipation, Simons and Lordon were able to experience their first day of classes as Grizzlies.

Simons, who is currently undecided but leaning toward a major in political science, found the transition from Macomb to Oakland to be far less daunt-

ing than expected.

"Oakland seems like a bigger version of Macomb: bigger campus, bigger classrooms, more people, bigger parking lots — although it's still hard to find a parking spot," Simons said.

Lordon is also enjoying her first weeks at Oakland despite adjusting to living off campus and competing with thousands for that elusive parking spot near her classes.

"Leaving a half hour early for everything to find a parking spot is definitely going to take some getting used to," she said.

In addition to chaotic parking, traffic and an earlier alarm setting, Lordon is also attempting to get accustomed to a student body of over 18,000, compared to her previous school's population of just 1,340 students.

Acknowledging the fact that her class sizes are much larger than at Kalamazoo, Lordon believes that there are definite benefits to attending Oakland.

"I can sort of be whomever I want and pursue new options I never had available at a small liberal arts school," she said.



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XIII

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ΑΔΠ

Alpha Delta Pi

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Phi Sigma Sigma

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Sigma Alpha Epsilon

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Phi Sigma Kappa

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Tau Kappa Epsilon

ΑΣΤ

Alpha Sigma Tau

ΓΦΒ

Gamma Phi Beta

XIV MEET THE GREEKS

OU Greeks experience growth

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

For those outside the Greek society, the fraternities and sororities on Oakland University's campus can be something of a mystery. You might be a freshman just starting at OU and aren't sure if you want to join a Greek organization. Maybe you're an upper classman who's observed Greek events on campus and is curious to learn more.

There are currently nine social sororities and fraternities at OU that hold many different events both on and off campus. This includes events like Sigma Pi's annual pig roast, Tau Kappa Epsilon's recent pizza picnic, or participating in Greek Fest, which took place last Thursday.

Greeks also do charity work for philanthropic organizations. Each Greek organization on campus is associated with a charitable group that they organize events to donate money toward. For example, Alpha Delta Pi supports Ronald McDonald House, Tau Kappa Epsilon supports St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and Phi Sigma Kappa supports the Special Olympics. During the course of the year, a fraternity or sorority will set up a few different events to raise money for its cause. Some even support other causes on the side.

Above all else, Greek organizations are social groups, hosting social gatherings like formals and mixers. Tau Kappa Epsilon has group gatherings for reasons as simple as teaching its brothers how to drive a stick-shift car.

"We all meet together, and we have a good time," TKE President Matthew Mulka said. "It's about getting to know people on a level beyond friends."

Sigma Alpha Epsilon recently had a "giant game of capture the flag." SAE president Dan Evola said that most nights they'll just go and hang out with the guys.

Being in a Greek organization goes beyond just hanging out with your friends, according to Miranda Christen of the Pan-Hellenic Council at OU.

Each group has its own set of values and principles that set it apart from the

other fraternities and sororities. After all, if you're interested in joining a sorority or fraternity, but you're not sure which one to rush, it helps to know what they represent.

Amanda Vanderford, president of Alpha Delta Pi, said they strive to be well-rounded individuals and become involved in their communities. ADPi is also the oldest existing sorority in the U.S., with 130 chapters across the country.

SAE's principles are based on being "The True Gentleman," which is, in part, someone who "...does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity..." Evola said it's something they ask that all SAE brothers learn and live by.

Gamma Phi Beta asks that its members "uphold the highest standards of womanhood." According to the Gamma Phi Beta's webpage, they expect each member to be the best they can be and build high moral standards.

"Tau Kappa Epsilon in general has a big focus on success," Mulka said regarding what makes TKE stand out. "I know other Greek organizations do that as well, but TKE takes it to the next level." Mulka said that the social contacts you can gain being a member of TKE would be an immense help later in life, because so many people are TKE alumni.

"We have the three ideals: lifelong learning, inclusiveness, and leadership through service," Phi Sigma Sigma president Laurel Kriebel said. She also said that involvement in extracurricular groups on campus is a requirement for joining Phi Sigma Sigma, and that they pride themselves on their involvement on campus. PSS's motto is "diokete hup-sala," which means to "aim high."

OU's newest fraternity, Phi Sigma Kappa, has only just gotten started at OU, but already it has made a mark as a unique fraternity. Phi Sigma Kappa advisor John Bowker said they are different in that they are the "non-fraternity fraternity." Bowker said Phi Sigma Kappa is a zero tolerance, non-drinking, non-drugs fraternity.

"Having a dry rush is a lot better in

my opinion, because you can see them as they really are," Bowkers said. Bowker explained that Phi Sigma Kappa brothers are allowed to drink, but not at fraternity events.

Bowker said that Phi Sigma Kappa is about making future leaders, and emphasizes the importance of maintaining good academic standing.

"To be able to realize your full potential, that's the greatest gift," Bowker said.

Initiation is not the simplest process for prospective new members of fraternities or sororities. Freshmen interested in joining up should attend a recruitment event or try to meet with members of the fraternity or sorority that interests them.

Men can apply to fraternities at any time by "rushing" or meeting with the fraternity to find out more about the brothers. The fraternity may then extend a bid to the prospective member. If he accepts, he becomes a pledge and then spends a period of time learning the fraternity's laws and history, which varies from one fraternity to another. They also do things like learn the Greek alphabet, so they can identify other organizations. After they complete the education period, pledges can take their initiation.

Joining a sorority is more complicated. Sororities have a short period for formal recruitment September 20-24. During formal recruitment, women have a chance to meet with each different sorority, attend their recruitment parties, learn about their philanthropies, then hope to get a bid. All interested freshmen women must go through this process, as sororities are not allowed to directly invite freshmen to join. Christen said this process is to prevent freshmen from getting overwhelmed.

Upper-classmen can join sororities through non-formal recruitment, including events like Greek Fest or the Sigma Pi pig roast.

Initiation rituals for each sorority and fraternity are closely guarded secrets shared only among the inductees. Since Greek organizations are at their roots secret societies, the details aren't meant to be public knowledge.

There are other factors to consider

when joining a Greek organization. Each sorority or fraternity is limited to a finite number of members at any given time, and once they reach the limit, they can't continue to recruit until someone leaves or graduates. Sororities under the Pan-Hellenic council have a limit of 55 members.

New Greek organizations like PSK or TKE, who have just begun on OU's campus, are not considered full chapters until they get their charter. According to Ryan Brandon, VP of Inter-Fraternity Council, TKE is in the colony stage, while PSK is currently an "interest group," which will evolve into a full fraternity as they gain members.

Josh Snell of Greek Council said these fraternities are known as colonies until they receive their charter and have fewer privileges than the chapters. To become a chapter, a fraternity or sorority has to have a certain number of members and prove its independence to the national Greek organization. Mulka said that anyone who joins up with TKE, until they hit 35 members, will be considered a founding member of the OU chapter.

Alpha Sigma Tau is in a similar situation. Last year they lost their charter due to a lack of membership, and have been remade as a colony.

"Alpha Sigma Tau's Nationals actually made the choice to close the previous chapter at Oakland and begin another," Christen said. "Their charter was pulled but they have been granted a new one to start fresh."

Another factor to consider is the dues that members must pay. An additional expense is always something for college students to be wary of, but it's something that can be discussed with the group you are interested in joining.

"I've met so many different people through TKE," Treasurer Nick McCormick said.

Evola said he never had any intention of joining a fraternity when he started at OU.

"Joining SAE is definitely the defining moment I've made in my career," he said. "It's opened me up to lifelong friends and the opportunities it's offered me are limitless."

the Mix

Oakland's fraternities and sororities invite students to see what they're all about.



ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL/The Oakland Post
DJ King (Joshua King), of Theta Chi, gets the party going at Greekfest '09, Thursday, Sept. 10.



ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL/The Oakland Post
Girls from Alpha Delta Pi set up a dunk tank for passers-by to try their shot.



ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL/The Oakland Post
A Sigma Pi member calls attention to their goldfish station. Players got two shots. Making one in won you a goldfish.



ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL/The Oakland Post
Members of Gamma Phi Beta man the pie toss station. A member of TKE does some post-pie cleaning up.

XVI

GREEK SPEAK

Active: A member who is initiated and active at the college level.

Alumni/Alumnae: Fraternity (alumni) and sorority (alumnae) members who have graduated from college.

Bid: A formal invitation to join a sorority or fraternity.

Bid day: The day when recruits find out which sorority they were accepted into.

Brother or Sister: Terms fraternities and sororities use to refer to one another.

Chapter: A local group of a larger national organization.

Colony: A group of students recognized by a university waiting for a charter from a national fraternity or sorority.

Initiation: A formal ceremony by fraternity and sorority headquarters that signals the beginning of active membership.

Non-ritual meeting: Non-members are allowed to attend these meetings.

Panhellenic: Means "all Greek" and stands as the governing council.

Pledge: A prospective member of a fraternity.

PNM: "Potential new member." Someone going through recruitment process.

Ritual: A private ceremony performed by a sorority or fraternity.

Rush: A drive by a fraternity or sorority to recruit new members.

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The Scene

September 16, 2009

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Barrymore skates Michigan

By ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL
Scene/Mix Editor

REVIEW

Promoting her new film, "Whip it," Drew Barrymore made a stop in Farmington Hills Friday. Barrymore and the Detroit Derby Girls mingled and skated with fans who came out to Bonaventure, a roller-skating complex, for this free event.

Extras in the movie, derby girls and eager children and parents gathered to be the first in line to get a glimpse of Barrymore and the festivities.

"Whip it" was filmed in Michigan, throughout the Detroit area and in places like Ypsilanti, Frankenmuth and Birch Run. Not only did tax incentives draw Barrymore here for her directorial debut, but other interests as well, specifically the Detroit Derby Girls' kickass spirit and league formidability in the world of roller derby. They lent a hand to the movie, which chronicles the lives of derby girls.

The main character, Bliss, played by Ellen Page, is a newbie trying to break into the derby scene. Page plays Bliss brilliantly, as a quick-witted, intelligent misfit sick of small town Texas life.

Against her mother's prim-and-proper pageant ethics (her mother is played by Marcia Gay Harden), she takes up with a team of local roller derby girls. Bliss is encouraged to "be your own hero" and find her inner confidence by mentor and derby girl, Kristin Wiig.

The team, called the "Hurl Scouts," consists of Barrymore herself as "Smashley Simpson," Eve as "Rosa Sparks" and Wiig as "Malice in Wonderland."

Other cast members include Juliette Lewis as "Dinah Might," Jimmy Fallon as the "MC" and Alia Shawkat as Bliss' best friend.

Barrymore cast Page before she starred in last year's breakout hit "Juno." When asked why she chose Page for the role of Bliss, Barrymore said, "I believe that she is the real deal. She is incredibly smart, funny and talented, but she is also so human. She is an inspiration."

The movie is based off Shauna Cross' novel, "Derby Girl." And although the film is set in Bordeen, Texas, near Austin, Barrymore said the Michigan filming locations fit perfectly with the charm of "Whip it."

Talking about filming in Ypsilanti, Barrymore said, "I couldn't have dreamed of finding a better location to cinematically tell the story and give the vibe of where this family lived than this cul-de-sac in Ypsilanti." She also spoke of Ypsi hangout, The Elbow Room, as being one of her favorite places in the area.

At the event Friday, the Detroit Derby Girls came out in support of the movie many of them played parts in. Tough, tattooed skaters like "Honey Suckit," "Tiny Ninja" and "Racer McChaseHer" strutted their skate and destroy moves for the fans and press during the event.

"Honey Suckit," a pint-sized derby girl with two-toned

hair, who called her name "a little sweet and a little street," said she and many of her teammates play the "Black Widows" in the film. The girls did stunt double work and coached Barrymore and the cast in rough and tumble derby moves and etiquette (or lack of).

The Detroit league itself has gained prowess in the last few years. The sporting event is one of the most exciting around and "Tiny Ninja" (a.k.a. Christina Lulianelli) encourages everyone to get involved, whether you want to skate or just watch the games. To become a derby girl, Lulianelli said, "You have to have commitment, a good attitude, a good cell phone plan and good wheels." She cites Page as an example, "Ellen took a bit to get used to her skates. She was a trooper though. By the second day she was like 'I want you to hit me as hard as you can.' It was a very Fight Club-esque moment."

For amateurs, Detroit Derby Girls host Derby! U, a two-day workshop open to all derby leagues who want new skills and cheap drinks.

Their first season game is Saturday, Oct. 10, a double-header vs. Madison at the Masonic Temple in Detroit. Tickets are available through ticketmaster.com. For more info about tryouts, merchandise, teams and a full schedule check out detroitderbygirls.com

The derby girl spirit originally attracted Barrymore here, but the financial bonus made her stay. Babe Ruthless Productions, her production company, received a 42 percent tax incentive for filming in Michigan. By contacting the Michigan Film Commission, Barrymore was set up with filming locations, crew members, hotels and other necessities.

Janet Lockwood of the Film Commission said, "This is building a new industry in Michigan. It's going to be a high tech industry, but more importantly, it's going to keep young, talented, artistic, tech people here."

The blossoming film industry is giving Michigan a new, creative lease on the future. Residents, filmmakers and a host of artistic souls are getting involved in various film projects throughout the state.

Barrymore's debut as a director, the growth of roller derby, Bliss' changing life and the burgeoning film industry in Michigan, alludes to a common theme: transformation.

It is a small reminder of the collaborative power of film and its ability to weave separate stories into an entertaining tale of the human spirit.



JENNIFER WOOD/The Oakland Post

The Detroit Derby Girls showcased their moves for fans outside of Bonaventure Friday.



JENNIFER WOOD/The Oakland Post

Drew Barrymore spoke to press about her movie, "Whip it."

The Fall of Troy visits Detroit

By AMANDA MEADE
Assistant Advertising Manager

Post-hardcore band The Fall of Troy from Mukilteo, Washington is made up of singer and guitarist Thomas Erak, drummer Andrew Forsman and bassist Frank Ene.

The Fall of Troy will be hitting the stage at St. Andrews Hall on Sept. 24 with Thursday, Young Widows and La Dispute.

The band's forthcoming full-length album, "In the Unlikely Event," will hit stores Oct. 6. Pre-order packages are available at new.merchnow.com.

The Oakland Post got a chance to talk with one-third of The Fall of Troy via a phone interview on Friday, Sept. 11.

The Oakland Post: What are your favorite tunes to play live?

Andrew Forsman: One of my favorites is definitely a really old song we have called "What Sound does a Mastodon Make?" We just got it back together with our new bass player. He didn't know it before this tour so I'm very excited to play that live. I really like playing another song that we have called "Mouths like Sidewinder Missiles" just 'cause it's another super old song that's just really fun to play. But as far as new songs, I'd probably say my favorite to play—live off the new album—is either "Battleship Graveyard" or "Pillow Talk" because they're pretty technical songs as far as drums go. It's a challenge and it's fun.

The Post: What are some crazy things fans have done either for you or at your shows?

Forsman: I mean, anything from kids getting on the stage and then getting carried off. I always love when the bouncer carries them off when they're still head banging, that's always fun. The nicest thing that anyone's ever done for us was these girls—they were definitely young, they were like 14 or 15, maybe 16, but I don't think so 'cause their mom drove them to the show. They brought us a stocking full of everything that we ever said that we liked in interviews. They brought us these dinosaurs that were made out of paper mache and Sour Patch Kids and comic books and stuff like that. When fans get tattoos that's always interesting 'cause I don't know if I would get a tattoo of a band.

The Post: The Fall of Troy has been on many tours, but who would play with you on your dream tour?

Forsman: Definitely The Deftones, just 'cause they're one of my favorite bands. And they're really fun to hang out with. I'd like to tour with Daughters again, 'cause we've only done Europe with them and they were hilarious and an amazing band and really made us try to step our game up every night 'cause they were so awesome. Then, since I don't like tours with more than four bands I'll round it out with The Beatles. They would headline.

The Post: You have released several YouTube videos within the last year, any plans to continue with that or possibly go further and create some sort of documentary?

Forsman: We always film whenever we're doing anything band related. There is a deluxe edition of our new CD coming out that should have a bunch of videos. On this tour we'll be doing tour blogs as well, like we have in the past. I would like to do a documentary filmed with really nice cameras 'cause the camera we film with is one of those Flip cameras and it's not the best quality. It's really good for if you have to start filming in two seconds 'cause something amazingly funny is happening. I would love to do a real documentary where we don't film, where people just film us. But there's no super big plans for that right now.

The Post: The last full-length album, "Manipulator," had a lot to do with drugs and seeing what happened to people you knew who were involved with them. What kinds of things does "In the Unlikely Event" deal with?



The Fall of Troy from left to right: guitarist Thomas Erak, drummer Andrew Forsman and bassist Frank Ene.

Photo courtesy of Dean Zulich

Forsman: I guess I'd just say the new CD has a little bit more to do with friendships than romantic relationships. There definitely are songs about romantic relationships but I would say it's more of a record about interactions with everyone as opposed to one single person or one girl.

The Post: What do you guys do to keep busy while on tour?

Forsman: Talk about poop a lot. No, read books or sometimes we'll plug a computer into the stereo in the van and watch a movie together or something. For the most part people are either sleeping or on their phones or computers in the van. Then at shows everyone's just hanging out with the other bands. We just kind of play it by ear each day. I mean nothing's ever like super planned out. We might plan on a barbecue every now and then but that's about it.

The Post: What are your thoughts on illegal downloading?

Forsman: Always going to happen. The only thing that it's going to do is if you suck no one's going to care or support you. If you're good, people will. It kind of makes the good stuff rise to the top. I don't have a problem with it if you do like a band that you download their record for free. You should try to support them by going to a show or buying a shirt online but you don't have to. Even if you just tell other people about them that's still a great trade-off for what we lose in that process. I guess most people think we lose. All it does is get the word about your band out. If you suck you die.

The Post: Where do you hope to be in five years?

Forsman: Still putting out albums. And still playing shows to people that want to be there. I mean hopefully just on the same path that we are now. It's just always been a gradual climb upwards in awesomeness for me personally. I have more fun every year doing this so in five years I'll have five times as much fun as I have now if I'm still doing it.

For all the Tweepers out there, follow The Fall of Troy on Twitter at: [THEREALTFOT](https://twitter.com/THEREALTFOT). To hear "Panic Attack!" off their latest album before it hits stores, head to falloftroy.com and subscribe to the band's mailing list.

New store shows "zeitgeist"

By ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL
Scene/Mix Editor

"Zeitgeist" is an obscure German word meaning "spirit of the times," a word for defining the cultural mood of a generation. Jerry Wald and Shane Ford, best known as founders of music venue, the Factory, hope to capture our current cultural mood in their new store, Zeitgeist.

Located in the bright pink house at 116 East Fourth Street in downtown Rochester, Zeitgeist stands directly across the alley from the Factory. Ford and Wald wanted to expand the creative work of the Factory, so when they noticed

no one was buying the building, which was for sale, they went for it.

Zeitgeist opened about a month ago. It specializes in women and men's apparel, handcrafted bikes and works by local designers and artists.

For now, they sell mostly basics like American Apparel hoodies, v-necks and various accessories. But in coming months, they hope to feature more pieces by local designers and vintage-inspired looks. Ford said he also expects to begin carrying the socially-aware, comfortable shoe brand, Toms.

Inside, it is decorated with a minimalist tone, with the primary-colored

clothing and displayed art work as its focal centerpieces. White walls and hardwood floors complement the clean, relaxed atmosphere of the store.

Only the front half of the store was open before Sept. 12, their official grand opening, when they opened up the back of the store. This back space will eventually be used as an art gallery, performance space and community room.

While the Factory is already known for its nightly local music shows, Ford said, "Zeitgeist will host more experimental art and music shows than the Factory." The business venture is a busy one at the moment, so he says stay tuned for postings of art classes, gallery events and small concerts.

The store is open Monday-Saturday 12-9 p.m. and Sunday 12-6 p.m., but stays open later on the nights of Factory shows (till about midnight).

For updates and more photos of Zeitgeist, head over to zeitgeiststore.com.

For info of upcoming shows at the Factory check out myspace.com/the-factoryrochester.com



ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL/The Oakland Post

Zeitgeist is located at 116 East Fourth street in downtown Rochester.



SHANE FORD/Zeitgeist

The selection of graphic tees, jackets and hoodies inside Zeitgeist.



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Oakland falls in shutout

Women's soccer team lacks consistent offensive attack in loss

By ZACH HALLMAN
Staff Intern

The Oakland University women's soccer team fell 2-0 to Western Michigan Sunday night in the regular season home opener. The team's poor performance left many unanswered questions for Grizzly fans in attendance and for head coach Nick O'Shea.

The game was the first of three this season played at the Ultimate Soccer Arena in Pontiac.

Sophomore netminder Shannon Coley returned from injury to make her first start since the season opener, a 3-0 loss to Michigan State. True freshman Whitney Sarkis had been starting in Coley's place for the past three games, with a 2-1 record.

Western Michigan got on the scoreboard early in the game when Nikolette Rivera scored a goal on a second chance rebound in the ninth minute.

In the second half, Coley gave up another rebound in front of the net that WMU's Jackie Drees knocked into the goal to put Oakland at a two-goal deficit from which they would never recover.

O'Shea did not seem to be overly concerned with the question of who will be starting the bulk of the games this season. "They are both good goalkeepers. Shannon gave up a bad goal today," O'Shea said. "But we have not come to any decision as to who our goalkeeper will be."

Following Western's second goal, Sarkis began warming up on the sidelines, but Coley remained in the net for the rest of the game.

O'Shea's bigger postgame criticisms were concentrated on the performance of his field players, specifically the offense.

"Nobody wants to take any shots or make anything happen themselves," he said. "Every player wants to pass the ball to someone else and have that person make something happen. There is no drive, no intensity, and that is one of the problems with having a young team, nobody wants to do anything themselves."

Oakland did not have a quality scoring chance until late in the second half when sophomore Deanna Colarossi had two shots hit the crossbar and the goalpost within a few seconds of each other.

O'Shea attributed the lack of a sustained offensive attack to his team's sub-par intensity.

"I have forwards that do not want to shoot the ball, they want to pass it and have someone else shoot it," he said.

Despite being shutout, the Grizzlies outshot their opponent 7-4.

This was the second consecutive game that Oakland has been kept off the scoreboard.

With the loss, Oakland dropped to 2-3 for the season. In its next match, the team will take on the University of Michigan Wednesday in Ann Arbor.



Scoring goals has been an area of concern in the early season. The team has scored just three goals in five games, and has been shut out three times. Sarah Lynch (10, pictured above) leads Oakland with two goals, and is tied for third on the team in shots on net. BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

2009 men's basketball schedule announced

The Oakland University men's basketball team has finalized its schedule for the upcoming season. The team will open the year with a home exhibition game against Hope College November 10.

The Golden Grizzlies will be playing one of the toughest non-conference schedules in the entire country this year, with road games against several of the best teams in college basketball.

Oakland will face Syracuse, Kansas, Memphis, and Wisconsin — four teams that made the NCAA Tournament last year.

Some of the highlights of the schedule include in-state matchups against Eastern Michigan in the regular season opener Nov. 14, Rochester College Nov. 21 and Michigan State Dec. 10.

The Grizzlies will open Summit League play against IPFW Dec. 5.

Oakland will have a chance at revenge with two games — Jan. 21 and Feb. 20 — against North Dakota State, the team that eliminated OU in the Summit League tournament finals in March.

— Dan Fenner, Sports Editor

Lions defense is offensive to watch

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

COLUMN

A new season quickly gave way to another abysmal performance by the Detroit Lions on Sunday. The season-opening loss to the New Orleans Saints marks the team's eighteenth consecutive defeat dating back to the end of the 2007 season.

We all know the offense is a work in progress. Rookie quarterback Matthew Stafford has been entrusted with the reins and is learning on the job, which will mean a certain degree of inconsistency. But there is no reason to believe he won't improve as the season goes along. The same cannot be said for the defense.

Any preseason hope for an improved defense this season already seems like a pipe dream. The Lions surrendered 45 points to the Saints, including six touchdowns allowed through the air.

And the run defense was no better. Journeyman running back Mike Bell, filling in for the injured starter, carried the ball 28 times for 143 yards.

Many of the Lions' defensive woes could be anticipated. The team made only marginal improvements to a defense that ranked among the very worst statistically in league history a year ago. Sure, the linebackers are better, but the defensive line and secondary remain glaring weaknesses ready to yield points to the opponent with every snap of the football.

The Lions' biggest defensive acquisition, linebacker Julian Peterson, was practically unnoticeable, both on

the field and in the post-game box score. There was no pass rush. There was no deception in the coverages. And the absence of a formidable run defense was made even more apparent by losing the time of possession battle as badly as they did.

It's a pretty bad sign when your leading tackler is a cornerback. It's an even worse sign when the defense frequently fails to tackle altogether.

The Lions did manage to somehow force three turnovers in the game. If you squint hard enough, you can possibly see that as an improvement. But other than that, it's difficult to identify any aspect on defense in which the Lions can definitively claim to be better than last year.

Matchups against the Lions will remain like golden tickets to Fantasy Football success this season, so take heed and plan accordingly.

Lions fans have got to be asking themselves now just how many more losses they'll have to endure before it ever turns around. The organization went to great lengths to distance themselves from their 2008 selves as much as possible.

They have a new coaching staff, new uniforms, a new logo and just 20 of the 53 players on the roster were here last season. The team has continued to shed the few remaining draft picks made by Matt Millen, leaving them inexplicably with just one player, Ernie Sims, who was drafted by the team from 2002 to 2006.

And despite all of the roster turnover and a perceived youth movement, it might surprise you to learn that the Lions are the fifth oldest team in the NFL on average.

Fans don't want to hear it, but this team is once again in the early stages of another rebuilding mode, and

we're talking about a full-blown reconstruction project. Millen could have been charged with metaphoric arson with the way he left this team in shambles.

But unlike the last three times the team started from scratch, new head coach Jim Schwartz actually looks like he could be the one to lead the Lions to a long-awaited revival.

He deserves the benefit of the doubt. After all, it's the failings of the Lions' front office over the past decade that have deprived him of a respectable array of young, talented players. He's got Calvin Johnson and a cloud of dust with which to work.

Schwartz is smart, and his philosophies are starkly in contrast with the rigid, unimaginative schemes of Rod Marinelli.

You don't get the feeling that he'll get caught up in a war of words with members of the Detroit media, or suffer from the other mistakes of his predecessors.

At no point, for instance, should we expect him to drop his headset and drive off on a motorcycle in the middle of practice as Marty Mornhinweg once famously did.

By any other team's set of standards, overcoming such trivial obstacles shouldn't be viewed as progress, but these are the Lions, and we all know they operate under lower expectations.

This season needs to be viewed as the start of a new direction. The Lions may have lost every game last season, but nevertheless, there seems to be a disconnect between that team and this one.

Patience is a virtue, which must make fans of the Detroit Lions the most virtuous people around having stood by for 50 losing seasons.

Tigers closing in on playoffs

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

COLUMN

It seems to be a foregone conclusion now that the Detroit Tigers will win their division, earning them a place in the postseason. Even with their recent struggles against inferior opponents, it will require a colossal collapse in the final three weeks of the season not to return to the playoffs for the first time since 2006.

A first round match-up with the New York Yankees is looming on the horizon. The statistics would indicate a tremendous mismatch, as the Yankees currently have 16 more victories this season than the Tigers, but baseball's history will not be so eager to dismiss Detroit's chances of winning when October rolls around.

The best team doesn't always win, and we don't need Hollywood-produced, feel-good movies to convince us of that.

The Tigers, after all, have spent the lengthy season proving doubters wrong

and perfecting their time-proven recipe for postseason success — good pitching and better defense.

Few teams in baseball can put a better duo of starting pitchers on the mound to start a postseason series. Justin Verlander and Edwin Jackson can be dominant and are both capable of stealing games the team might otherwise lose. The Tigers' third starter, Rick Porcello, has exceeded every reasonable expectation of a 20-year-old in his rookie season.

As for one of the team's pesky problems during the regular season — consistent fourth and fifth starters — postseason scheduling of games all but eliminates their necessity. Expect Verlander, and possibly Jackson as well, to pitch twice in the best-of-five, first round series.

Additionally, the Tigers' defense has been leaps and bounds better than a year ago when they frequently lost games due to shoddy fielding. The team is very sound up the middle with Gold Glove caliber players at catcher, second base, shortstop and center field.

Jim Leyland has been successful

throughout his managerial career in the postseason. He's won a World Series, and he's come close to winning another.

But there's a reason the Tigers aren't running away with the division despite the struggles of their Central Division rivals.

The Tigers still are an obviously flawed team, but criticism of a team that most experts would have said wasn't supposed to be in this position back in April is difficult to dish out.

The offense has run hot and cold for the entirety of the season. The Tigers seem to possess enough capable, veteran hitters to make for a formidable batting order, but for whatever reason, the team has struggled to provide runs.

But the Tigers showed in their improbable 2006 run to the World Series that you don't need to be an offensive juggernaut to win.

They also learned the hard way that same postseason when they lost to the Cardinals, a team that won just 83 games in the regular season.

The Tigers may not be the flashiest or the most publicized team, but it would be foolish to dismiss them in October.



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MEN'S SOCCER
9/18 at Wisconsin
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GAME SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 16-22

WOMEN'S GOLF
9/19 - 9/20 vs. Ball State
Cardinal Classic
Yorktown, Ohio

WOMEN'S SOCCER
9/16 at Michigan
9/18 at Northern Illinois
9/22 at University of Detroit

MEN'S GOLF
9/19 - 9/20 vs. Michigan State
Spartan Classic in Kingsley, Mich.

VOLLEYBALL
9/18 vs. S. Dakota State 7 p.m.*
9/19 vs. N. Dakota State 7 p.m.*
* at the Athletics Center O'Rena
9/22 at Bowling Green

SOFTBALL
9/19 Alumni Game 11 a.m.
* at the OU Softball Field

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GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



Photo courtesy of OU Athletics

Zack Jones
Cross Country
Year: Senior

For the second consecutive weekend, Jones finished first in long distance men's cross country races. He posted a time of 25:26 in the eight kilometer event Saturday at the IPFW Invitational.

Volleyball team opens Summit League play with two victories

By **MIKE SANDULA**
Staff Reporter

After starting off conference play with a pair of wins, the Oakland University women's volleyball team is one win away from tying their single-season high since becoming a Division I program a decade ago.

For their Summit League opener, OU traveled to Kansas City, Mo., Thursday where they beat the University of Missouri-Kansas City 3-1. They lost the first frame 25-18, but they stormed back to win the next three sets to take the match.

Senior Adrienne Leone led OU with 12 kills while sophomore Ashleigh Slemmer had 10. Sophomore Ashley Nevelle had 40 assists.

Defensively, junior Brittany Dunn led OU with 16 digs. Slemmer and Nevelle had 13 and 12 digs, respectively, giving

them both double-doubles for the night.

The Grizzlies then traveled Saturday to Cedar City, Utah, where they beat Southern Utah 3-2.

The Grizzlies were quickly behind after losing the first two matches, 25-21 and 25-16. But they came back to narrowly win the third set, 25-23, and then tied the match after winning the fourth set, 25-21. OU sealed the comeback with a 15-7 win in sudden death.

Slemmer turned in another double-double with 16 kills and 12 digs. Leone and Nevelle kept up their scoring pace with 15 kills and 41 assists, respectively. Dunn and freshmen Alli Kirk led the defense with 13 digs apiece.

OU (7-1, 2-0 Summit League) will resume league play this weekend when they host South Dakota State (3-5) Friday and North Dakota State (6-2) Saturday at the O'Rena. Both matches begin at 7 p.m.

Cross country season already off and running

By MIKE SANDULA
Staff Reporter

The 2009 Cross Country season is underway and The Oakland Post sat down with head coach Paul Rice to discuss early season results and this season's top runners.

What are the goals for this season?

"For us, it's more recently [to be ranked in the] top 15 in the region. We've gotten ranked in the top 15 but haven't actually finished in the top 15 at the regional championships.

I think this year we have a top 15 squad."

Looking toward the future, who are some runners to keep an eye on for future seasons?

"We've got a great sophomore class that ran really well last year as freshmen. Our sophomore trio [Pat Cassady, Kenny Wall and Steven Marcinkowski] are all in our top seven. We brought in some really good freshmen this year. Tony Schafer, a state champion last year as a senior in high school, he's really a freshman star for us. Philip Palomino, he's run real well this year.

I'm real excited about the future, we've got some great freshmen and sophomores. Zack Jones is actually a senior but we redshirted him his second year because of an injury so he will be back next year as a redshirt senior."

Speaking of Jones, he seems to be off to a good start. How is he so successful?

"Well, Zack Jones didn't start out as a standout his first year, but it's been an evolution his last couple of years. He definitely has a little less fear than everybody else. He gets out there and just runs hard and really lays it out on the line. He's been right out front the last couple years and for him that's a comfortable place and that's where he likes to be."

As for the women's side, Kelsey Carmean has been winning races early in the year. Who else can we expect to emerge?

"Kelsey, right now, she is our standout but we've got a group of women that we haven't run yet this year that are coming off injuries. When we get them all together, we'll find out more in the next couple of weeks.

We've got Lia Jones coming back, she had an injury over the summer ... we're trying not to push her too much too early. Sara Lieblein, she's a senior this year, she'll be back next week as well. She's been one of our front-runners the last couple years. Erica D'Angelo, she's still healing, she had an injury over the summer, it'll be probably be three to four more weeks before she comes back. Once we get that core group of girls back, this is gonna be a really good season."

The team will compete next at the Cardinal Invitational in Saginaw Sept. 25.



JOSE JUAREZ/OU Athletic Communications
Kelsey Carmean finished first in the women's 5K long distance runs at each of Oakland's first two meets this season.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

It was a week of travel for the Oakland University sports teams. Here is a recap of the out-of-town scores and highlights for the week of Sept. 9-15.

Men's soccer

The Oakland University men's soccer team suffered a tough loss at the hands of Northern Illinois on Sunday, surrendering the only goal of the game in the 85th minute to lose 1-0.

Despite being badly outshot in the match, Oakland was in position throughout to possibly upset the 22nd-ranked Huskies thanks to strong play by goaltender Mitch Hildebrandt, who made eight saves.

The loss drops Oakland's season record to 2-3-1. The Grizzlies' next match is Friday, Sept. 18 against the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Cross Country

A pair of Oakland University runners placed first in the men's and women's long distance cross country races at the IPFW Invitational Saturday morning.

Senior Zack Jones recorded the fastest time in the men's 8K race, while sophomore Pat Cassady finished third in a field of 58 runners from several different schools.

In the women's 5K race, Oakland junior Kelsey Carmean finished first with a time of 18:44. Sophomore Jami Rodes also finished in sixth place.

Women's golf

The women's golf team competed in Mary Fossum Invitational in East Lansing. Saturday and Sunday. The team finished 13th out of the 17 schools that took part in the weekend tournament.

Michigan State, the host school, took first place.

Five Oakland golfers participated in the invitational, led by sophomore Liz Ecker, who shot 18-over par 234 overall.

— Dan Fenner, Sports Editor

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Bowling in Landry's memory

By ANNIE STODOLA
Local/You Editor

Members of the community can bowl for a good cause this Thursday night.

A bowl-a-thon is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 17 from 5:30-10 p.m. at Avon North Hill Lanes in Rochester in memory of Matthew Landry.

The 21-year-old Chesterfield Township was the victim of a carjacking and kidnapping. Landry disappeared Aug. 9 outside an Eastpoint Quiznos and his body was found Aug. 13 in an abandoned Detroit house.

Two area teenagers were recently indicted on six different charges in the case.

The bowl-a-thon was set up by PSCU Financial Services & Dialogue Marketing, the company where Landry's mother works.

Teams of six can register to bowl at the event for \$25 per person. For those who do not wish to bowl but still want to attend, the company is asking for a \$5 donation.

Teams can choose to play from either

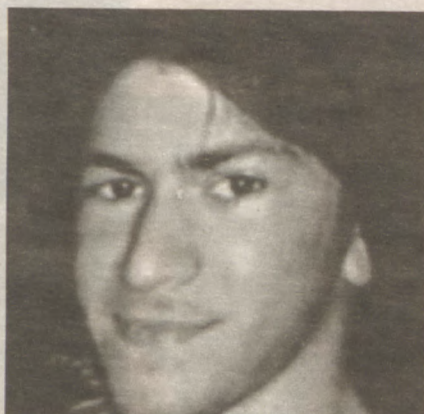


Photo Courtesy of Sara Carter
Avon North Hills Lanes is hosting a bowl-a-thon this Thursday in memory of Matthew Landry.

6-8 p.m. or from 8-10 p.m. Winners will receive a trophy, as well as "bragging rights," according to organizers.

"Proceeds from the bowl-a-thon are going to the Matthew Landry Music Fund," said Sara Carter, marketing manager for Dialogue Marketing. "Matthew

was a big fan of music and he was in bands himself. He loved music."

Carter said the foundation raises money to go toward music scholarships for local students interested in the arts. The scholarship program is set up through the Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union.

In addition to the money raised from the bowling registration fees, the organizers are holding a silent auction during the event.

Other activities include a prize wheel, cash bar, food, entertainment and 50/50 raffles.

Some of the prizes sponsors have secured for the event include tickets for musical acts like Cobra Starship and Boys Like

Girls, tanning memberships, salon packages, tickets to local sporting events, a Tayshaun Prince autographed basketball and certificates for Dave and Buster's.

Teams can register online at <http://www.dialogue-marketing.com/matthewlandry/>

Avon North Hill Lanes is located at 150 W. Tienken in Rochester. For information, call (248)-651-8544.



Image Courtesy of Sara Carter
More information is also available on Facebook by searching "Matthew Landry Bowl-a-Thon."

Obama: Anti-abortion shooting "deplorable"

By TIM MARTIN
Associated Press Writer

OWOSSO — President Barack Obama on Sunday condemned the killing of an anti-abortion activist in Michigan as activists and others gathered for a vigil near the site where he was fatally shot.

Obama called last week's shooting of James Pouillon "deplorable" in a two-sentence statement.

"Whichever side of a public debate you're on, violence is never the right answer," Obama said in the statement.

Police say Pouillon, 63, was killed Friday morning while protesting across the street from a high school in Owosso, about 70 miles northwest of Detroit. Pouillon was in his usual spot holding a sign that pictured a chubby-cheeked baby with the word "LIFE" on one side and an image of an aborted fetus with the word "ABORTION" on the other.

Authorities allege Harlan Drake, 33, of Owosso, pulled up to Pouillon in a truck and opened fire. Prosecutors say Pouillon's methods irritated Drake, particularly when used near the high school. Drake is also accused of killing a local business owner earlier that day.

Multicolored flowers, balloons and candles during Sunday's vigil marked the spot where Pouillon was shot. More than 200 people attended the vigil, standing in a circle as many carried the same sort of graphic signs he used.

The retired autoworker was a well-known and polarizing personality in Owosso, a town of about 15,000 residents. His protests — often staged outside the school, library, at car dealerships and even football games for several years — rubbed some residents the wrong way and led to frequent court battles.

But some said he was a martyr.

"Not only did my dad die for these

babies, he met them in heaven."

Pouillon's daughter, 26-year-old Mary Jo Pouillon, told the crowd.

"When I was little, we rode past Mr. Pouillon and the guy in front of us threw a bottle at him," said Jack Crawford, 13, as he stood solemnly holding a red-lettered sign that read "Killing is never the answer. No matter what your beliefs are, you have to respect others."

Pouillon's death was the latest high-profile shooting of a person involved in the abortion debate. On May 31, abortion provider George Tiller was fatally shot in his Kansas church. Scott Roeder of Kansas City, Mo. has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder and has said Tiller's killing was justified to save "the lives of unborn children."

Drake is also charged with killing Owosso gravel company owner Mike Fuoss in a separate shooting Friday, seven miles from the high school.

Investigators say Drake told police after his arrest that he planned to kill a third person.

Police have said little about what might have led Drake — a truck driver who mostly lived in his cab and had family in the area — to kill, other than that he had a grudge against the men.

Drake was hospitalized Saturday after what the county prosecutor said was an apparent suicide attempt in the Shiawassee County Jail. The sheriff and prosecutor didn't immediately return phone messages Sunday. He was arraigned Friday without an attorney on first-degree murder charges and ordered held without bond.

Fuoss' family has said Drake's mother worked at the gravel company more than a decade ago, and prosecutors said she did some work for Owosso real estate agent James Howe — the third man authorities say Drake intended to kill.

Group plans Great Lakes cleanup

By JOHN FLESHER
AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY — With Congress poised to pump at least \$400 million into a Great Lakes fix-up over the next year, activists are making plans to ensure the money is used wisely.

Accountability is a recurrent theme during the fifth annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference this week in Duluth, Minn. It's sponsored by the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition, which has more than 100 member organizations.

The U.S. Senate is expected to vote next week on a bill that would pay for projects in the region such as countering foreign species invasions, removing toxic sediments, improving wildlife habitat and preventing runoff of farm fertilizers and other pollutants from onshore.

President Barack Obama pledged dur-

ing his campaign last year to devote \$5 billion to restoring the lakes' battered ecosystems.

Obama requested an initial \$475 million in his 2010 budget, which the House has approved. The Senate bill would appropriate \$400 million. If the bill passes, a conference committee will determine the final sum.

Once the money starts flowing, it will be up to governments and non-profit groups in the region to spend it effectively so Congress will provide more in future years, supporters said at the Duluth conference, which began Thursday and was continuing through Saturday.

"The pressure is intense," Jeff Skelding, director of the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition, said in a phone interview Friday. "We have heard countless times from federal agencies and the White House that nothing is

guaranteed, that we have to get positive results to make sure this is not a one-shot deal."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency would be in charge of distributing the money and is developing a system for evaluating requests.

It is designed to bring a more systematic approach to Great Lakes cleanup, which supporters acknowledge has been somewhat disjointed in the past, with federal, state, local and tribal agencies — and private groups — acting independently.

"It's understandable that we've had agencies doing their own work as they have seen fit, because there hasn't been an overarching strategy to guide restoration," said Cameron Davis, senior adviser to EPA chief Lisa Jackson and the administration's point man on the restoration.

Some critics have questioned whether

too much money will go toward administrative costs such as education, communication and monitoring. But Davis said it's crucial to keep track of funded projects and measure how well they succeed.

"That's not something you can do on a nickel and a dime," he said.

Gildo Tori, public policy director for Ducks Unlimited's Great Lakes office, said his organization has years of experience in wetlands restoration and is eager to step up its efforts with federal support.

"We're poised with other key groups in the region to say we know what to do, we know where to do it, so let's band together and make some good, wise choices," Tori said.

Cleanup projects will boost local economies as contractors are hired for tasks such as clearing fish passages and improved ecological conditions draw hunters, anglers and birdwatchers, he said.

Local news briefs: tuition, Glover, gas prices

Source: The Associated Press

Manure fight leads to shots fired

HURON TOWNSHIP — Police say a dispute over manure led to a man firing his shotgun near his neighbors and police later using a Taser to subdue him. The Saginaw News reports the man approached his neighbors in Huron County's Huron Township, about 110 miles north of Detroit, Saturday as they spread lime and manure on their farm. Police say the 45-year-old fired his shotgun and then aimed the gun at the couple as they approached the fence in their tractor. Authorities said the manure dispute had been ongoing. Officers responded and a Taser was used to subdue the suspect, who was held in the county jail pending charges.

Bing: Detroit turnaround plan coming soon

DETROIT — Detroit Mayor Dave Bing says his administration expects to have a blueprint in the coming days to fix the city's ills. The city faces a \$300 million budget deficit and scores of layoffs. Bing told a group of business women Tuesday his turnaround team has completed a 137-page document. He says it has recommendations on ways to reform finances, attack crime and improve delivery of services. The recommendations were circulated last week to Bing's internal leadership. He says he'll meet with his aides this week and make the recommendations public within 10 days.

Glover to star in local film

HIGHLAND PARK — Actor Danny Glover will star in a movie that could help revive a shuttered library in the impoverished Detroit enclave of Highland Park. The film project titled "Highland Park" was announced Monday at a news conference at the McGregor Library. The story line will mirror the ongoing struggle to reopen the library, which closed in March 2002 because the city could not afford to keep it open. Lt. Gov. John Cherry Jr. was on hand for the announcement. Highland Park Mayor Hubert Yopp tells the Detroit Free Press the library will undergo significant restoration and the movie will be a "steppingstone" to its reopening.

AAA Michigan: State gas prices up less than 1 cent

DEARBORN — AAA Michigan says gasoline prices are up four-tenths of a cent per gallon over the past week to a statewide average of \$2.54. The auto club said Monday the statewide average is \$1.51 per gallon lower than last year at this time. Of the cities it surveys, AAA Michigan says the cheapest price for self-serve regular fuel is in the Saginaw-Bay City area, where it's \$2.48 a gallon. The highest average can be found in the Marquette area at \$2.58. Dearborn-based AAA Michigan surveys 2,800 Michigan gas stations daily.

Ads aim to end social stigmas associated with mental illness

LANSING — Two public service announcements aimed at ending stereotypes associated with mental illness have begun playing on Michigan's television airwaves. The National Alliance on Mental Illness Michigan ads began appearing this month and feature several dozen people who either suffer from mental illness or have family members who do. Sherri Solomon, the organization's Michigan executive director, tells the Lansing State Journal about 250,000 people in Michigan have been diagnosed with mental illness. She hopes the ads will air for at least three months — but acknowledges that eliminating social stigmas will take much longer. The Centers for Disease Control says about one in four American adults suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year.

Plan would use lottery, gambling for free tuition

LANSING — A lawmaker wants to offer free college tuition to all Michigan high school graduates by creating three special lotteries and asking casinos to voluntarily give the state another 1 percent of their gross receipts. Democratic Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. of Detroit hopes the rest of the money for his proposed constitutional amendment would come from the generosity of corporations, foundations and residents who give some of their income tax refund by checking a box on their state income tax form. To qualify, students would have to live in Michigan for at least five years before graduating high school and have at least a 2.5 GPA. They also must do a year of community service. The tuition plan would not pay for room and board, textbooks and other fees. Durhal estimates it would cost \$1.7 billion over a four-year period to pay for his proposal announced Monday.

Indonesia's Aceh passes law on death by stoning

By FAKHRURRADZIE GADE
Associated Press Writer

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — Adulterers can be stoned to death and homosexuality is punishable by steep prison terms under a new law passed unanimously by lawmakers Monday in Indonesia's devoutly Muslim Aceh province.

Aceh's regional parliament adopted the bill despite strong objections from human rights groups and the province's deputy governor, who said the legislation needed more careful consideration because it imposes a new form of capital punishment.

The chairman of the 69-seat house asked if the bill could be passed into law and members answered in unison: "Yes, it can." Some members of the moderate Democrat Party had voiced reservations, but none of them voted against the bill.

The law, which reinforces the province's already strict Islamic laws, is to go into effect within 30 days. Its passage comes two weeks before a new assembly led by the moderate Aceh Party will be sworn in following a heavy defeat of conservative Muslim parties in local elections.

Aceh, where Islam first arrived in Indonesia from Saudi Arabia centuries ago, enjoys semiautonomy from the central government. A long-running Islamic insurgency in the province ended in 2005 in the wake of the Indian Ocean tsunami that killed 130,000 there.

A version of Islamic law, or Shariah, that had been introduced in Aceh in 2001 already bans gambling and drinking alcohol, and makes it compulsory for women to wear headscarves. Dozens of public canings have been carried out by the local Shariah police against violators of that law.

The majority of Indonesia's roughly 200 Muslims practice a moderate form of the faith and surveys suggest they do not support such hard-line interpretations of the Quran, the Muslim holy book.

Several countries have laws on stoning, but the punishment remains a point of disagreement between Islamic scholars. Out of 52 Muslim-majority countries worldwide, stoning is legally sanctioned in varying forms in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and parts of Nigeria.

Illegal stonings have also been reported in recent years in Iraq and Somalia.

The most notable example in modern Islam was that of Amina Lawal, a young woman who was sentenced to death in a Nigerian state in 2002 for having sex outside marriage, but was later released.

The new Indonesian law also imposes tough sentences and fines, to be paid in kilograms of gold, for rape and pedophilia, but the most hotly disputed article was on adultery and states that offending married couples can be punished by a minimum of 100 lashings and a maximum of death by stoning.

"The stoning to death is the toughest punishment included in the (new) Shariah law," Bahrom Rasjid, one of the drafters and a member of the United Development Party, said after its passage.

It also imposes severe prison terms for other behavior considered morally unacceptable, including homosexuality, which will be punishable by public lashings and more than eight years in prison.

Aceh Vice Governor Muhamad Nazar said that even though his office opposed the clause on death by stoning it has no legal power to block it. "Whatever law is passed we have to enforce it," he said.

Clues to inside job in Yale killing

By PAT EATON-ROBB
Associated Press Writer

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Clues increasingly pointed to an inside job Monday in the slaying of a Yale graduate student whose body was found stuffed inside a wall five days after she vanished from a heavily secured lab building accessible only to university employees.

Police on Monday sought to calm fears on the Ivy League campus, saying the death of 24-year-old Annie Le was a targeted act. But they declined to name a suspect or say why anyone would want to kill the young woman just days before she was to be married.

"We're not believing it's a random act," said officer Joe Avery, a police spokesman. No one else is in danger, he said, though he would not provide details and denied broadcast reports that police had a suspect in custody.

Yale officials said the building where Le worked would reopen under increased security. Still, some students worried about their safety.

"I'm not walking at nights by myself anymore," said student Natoya Peart, 21, of Jamaica. "It could happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere."

Michael Vishnevetsky, 21, of New York, said he did not feel safe when he made a late trip to his lab Sunday in a different building. "It felt very different than how I usually felt," he said.

Twenty-year-old Muneeb Sultan said he's shocked that a killing could take place in a secure Yale building.

"It's a frightening idea that there's a murderer walking around on campus," said Sultan, a chemistry student.

Police found Le's body about 5 p.m. Sunday, the day she was to marry Columbia University graduate student Jonathan Widawsky, lovingly referred to on her Facebook page as "my best friend." The couple met as undergraduates at the University of Rochester and were eagerly awaiting their planned wedding on Long Island.

Police have said Widawsky is not a suspect and helped detectives in their investigation.

The building where the body was found is part of the university medical school complex about a mile from Yale's main campus. It is accessible to Yale personnel with identification cards. Some 75 video surveillance cameras monitor all doorways.

The body was found in the wall chase — a deep recess where utilities and cables run between floors. An autopsy on Monday confirmed that the remains were those of Le, and authorities formally declared her death a homicide.

Le's laboratory was in the basement of the five-story building. Her office was on the third floor, where authorities found her wallet, keys, money and purse.

Campus officials have said that the security network recorded Le entering the building by swiping her ID card about 10 a.m. Tuesday. She was never seen leaving.

Yale closed the building Monday so police could complete their investigation, according to a message sent to Yale students and staff. Scientists are being allowed in only to conduct essential research projects, and only under the supervision of a police officer.

Police are analyzing what they call "a large amount" of physical evidence.

A friend said Monday that Le never showed signs of worry about her own personal safety at work, although she did express concerns about crime in New Haven in an article she wrote in February for the medical school's magazine.

"If she was concerned about (it) she would have said something to someone, and they would have known," Jennifer Simpson told CBS' "The Early Show."

Simpson said Le, a pharmacology student from Placerville, Calif., was friendly to everyone.

"She was a people person," Simpson said. "She loved people. She loved life. We just can't imagine anybody wanting to harm Annie."

The university planned a candlelight vigil for Monday evening.

NIW BRIEFS

09-14 | DeFUNDIAK SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — A judge ruled that constant exposure to hairspray set off a teen's alcohol monitoring device — not consumption of alcohol. Based on evidence presented Thursday, Judge Kelvin Wells said he wouldn't revoke the pre-trial release of a 17-year-old teen. The teen was wearing the anklet under a court order. The device issued an alert in July after three separate readings showed she had alcohol in her system.

The teen works at a hair salon and her attorney argued that hairspray triggered the alert. A co-founder of the anklet testified that certain products — including perfumes and cleaning products — can trigger a false alert. She's charged with DUI manslaughter and DUI with serious bodily injury. Her trial is scheduled to begin in January.

09-14 | TROUTVILLE, Va. (AP) — An animal rights group wants to rent a prison building the state plans to close and turn it into the nation's first chicken empathy museum. A People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals official sent a letter Monday to Gov. Tim Kaine asking to rent the Botetourt Correctional Center building in Troutville. Kaine spokeswoman Lynda Tran said the state doesn't lease to private entities except for cases grandfathered in when it purchases buildings.

PETA spokeswoman Ashley Byrne said the Norfolk-based group thinks a former prison is the ideal setting for exhibits on what it contends is mistreatment of chickens raised for slaughter.

PETA said the museum also would have displays detailing chickens' habits and intelligence.

MOUTHING OFF

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Oakland Post

September 16, 2009

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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Swine Flu: Oink, squeal, spew

In a special health report, Mouthing Off mixes laughs with coughing

By DAN SIMONS
Mouthing Off Editor

What do coughing cougars, Elmo and beer pong have in common? Swine flu has gotten to them all.

While it is in ridiculously poor taste to joke about a potentially fatal illness, laughter is the very best medicine. And if that doesn't work, you can always rip out the Mouthing Off section and use it to sneeze into.

After an extra week off, Oakland's Golden Grizzlies are happy to finally be back in class, while the Cougars of Washington State University wish they weren't, as the campus has a problem with the piggy plague.

Many people have already contacted the WSU student health services, reporting flu-like symptoms. I alway figured it was the cougar that bested the pigs.

"The students are taking it like any other type of flu," said 21-year-old Molly Aigner, in an interview with the Associated Press. "It's not like we're growing tails or anything."

With students across the country piling into classrooms and dorms, the threat of swine flu is back on the rise. A vaccine is in the works and drug stores like Walgreens and CVS are trying to keep people healthy by selling flu shots, just down the aisle from the energy drinks, potato chips and cigarettes.

To help get the word out about preventing the pig pandemic, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services has recruited the aide of one of the top physicians in the nation. No, not Dr. Gregory House, they have enlisted the help of Elmo.

In a public service announcement released last month, the Sesame Street character tells kids to make sure to cough into their elbows, don't touch their eyes, nose, and mouth, and for the love of Big Bird, wash your damned hands before you tickle him.

If anyone is to be believed about swine flu, it's Elmo. After all, it's probably not the worst thing a puppet has picked up from Miss Piggy.

College students are even more susceptible to swine sickness because of their proximity in dorms, poor nutrition and eating habits, and sub-par living condi-

tions. They could avoid swine flu if they didn't live... well, like pigs.

After many schools reported cases of the flu, including a fatality at Cornell University, officials are advising students on how to block the bacon blight.

Students are advised to avoid activities that might help spread the disease, like playing beer pong. Options for a safer game of beer pong include substituting beer with water, or just not playing against the guy who can't stand up and is sweating bullets.

Organizations are helping students by handing out items including surgical masks, hand sanitizers, throat lozenges, bottled water and tissues. Many students are hoarding these supplies just to be safe, and later they can make a really cheap doctor costume for Halloween.

OU's population should stay prepared. Here are a few tips to prevent H1N1 from leaving you saying WTF.

Any student who attended the Sigma Pi pig roast last Friday for the SPB carnival is safe. You can still eat Porky Pig and not pick up his pox.

Students are advised to stay hydrated (beer), get lots of vitamin C (orange juice and vodka), and remain well rested (sleep during class) to stay (somewhat) healthy.

Avoid Chartwells food. This has nothing to do with swine flu, but it's probably still good health advice.

Get plenty of exercise. This can easily be accomplished by going above and beyond the treacherous hike from whatever parking lot in which you managed to secure a spot. Try doing the trek with extra weight in your backpack, like your student loan bills, or a credit card statement from the last textbook you bought.

If you are friends on Facebook with someone who has swine flu, de-friend them immediately. If it spreads as fast as Farmville or Stalker check invites, then the whole human race is done for.

In all seriousness, if you feel yourself coming down with the flu, any kind of flu, please seek medical attention. Help and information is always available at the Graham Health Center, which will have seasonal flu shots starting September 21 and swine flu vaccinations when they become available.

If you or someone you know becomes sick — stay the hell away from me.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

These college students weren't willing to give up their beer pong for something as silly as H1N1.

STAY HEALTHY... KINDA.

Here are some other diseases to look out for:

Lion's flu

Symptoms: Victims are sluggish, uncoordinated, slow and experience a lack of stamina. Lasts about 16 weeks.

Kanye disorder

Symptoms: The infected are prone to outbursts of public humiliation and making teenage girls cry on stage.

Russi-itis

Symptoms: Sufferers experience a 40 percent increase in their wallet size. Actually, this would be awesome to have.

Grizzly gout

Symptoms: Most often, these victims are found passed out somewhere between their class and their car.

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